

TO PUSH ALL THE BILLS.

RESULT OF THE SUNDAY CONFERENCE WITH MR. PLATT

THE CHARTER, POLICE BILL AND RAINES LAW
AMENDMENTS TO BE PRESSED AT ALBANY
—DEFEAT OF MR. LAUTERBACH
AND OTHER LOCAL REPU-
BLICANS ON THE EX-

CISE FEATURE.

There was a political conference of considerable importance at the Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday. It decided the trend of legislation for the State of New-York, which may govern the political situation not only in the territory of

The conference, which was held in the apartments of Senator Platt, was attended by the Senator himself, Louis F. Payn, State Insurance Commissioner; Senator John Raines, Senator Timothy E. Ellsworth, President pro tem. of the Senate; Edward Lauterbach, president of the New-York Republican County Committee; Senator Nevada N. Stranahan, of Oswego; Senator Myer Nussbaum, of Albany, and Senator J. Irving Burns, of Westchester. There was no representative from New-York except Mr. Lauterbach, and none from Brooklyn.

When Senator Platt left the hotel to take his train from Washington it was plain that the un-

The conference decided that the Greater New York Charter should be pushed through without change; that the Greater New-York Police Board bill should be passed, and that the stringent Raines amendment which Mr. Raines brought down with him, and which were so bitterly opposed by the Republicans of New-York, Brooklyn and other cities, should be incorporated in the present Excise laws of the State.

Before the conference met there were strong and decided protests against any amendments that might change the present conditions of the excise business in this part of the State. Edw. Postmaster Van Cott, Edward Lauterbach, Will-

Sam Henkel, E. J. Palmer, ex-Judge Ernest Hall, William H. Ten Eyck, George Hillard, F. S. Gibbs, C. W. Meade and other well-known city Republicans pointed out the dangers to the party organization which would result in changing the present excise legislation, which they insisted had worked satisfactorily for over a year. They contended that Republican victories in New-York City had been gained only when the excise question had been eliminated from the political issue. Whenever the Republicans had unduly interfered with the sale of liquor in New-York they had been defeated.

When the conference met, the opposition of Lauterbach, Worth and other opponents of the amendments to the Raines law was brushed aside. The plan of the up-country Republican was carried.

MR. PLATT'S POSITION.

Mr. Platt himself, up to his return from Washington last week, had adhered to the proposition not to allow any material interference with the Raines law as it was enacted last March. What induced him to change his mind was a subject of much speculation yesterday. There were not a few who believed that he had succumbed to the

threats of Black and Payn, and believed that the party machinery might be wrested from him if he refused to accept the Raines amendments. These amendments, it was alleged by New York Republicans, would introduce havoc into the party in this city. The amendments comprise every social club which dispenses beer, wine or liquor to its members to pay the same liquor

The members of many of these clubs insist that this change will result in their disbandment. The loss of political influence and political prestige which would follow the disbandment of clubs of a social character, where, under the decision of the Court of Appeals, liquor could be

distributed to members, was, it was declared, hardly to be computed, because the unpopularity of the innovation would be charged to the Republican party. But the arguments of Mr. Lauterbach and his assistants proved of no avail. The Raines amendments are to go through along with the Greater New-York Charter and the Greater New-York Police bill.

Certain changes made include the restriction of what are known as Raines hotels. These are intended to do away with these notoriously "fake" hotels, and require that the ten rooms shall contain a certain number of square feet, and that the dining-room shall also have a prescribed number of square feet. There was no serious opposition to the new regulations proposed. They were generally looked upon as reasonable and accepted.

Among the concessions gained by Republicans opposed to the amendments are that clubs whose buildings stand within 200 feet of churches and schools shall be allowed to dispense liquors. This privilege is conferred in an amendment which permits clubs incorporated before March 24, 1896 the date on which the Raines law took effect, to retain the privileges then possessed by them.

The Union, the University, the Reform, City and many other like associations in this city might easily afford to pay the \$800 a year license which the change in the Raines law will bring about, but there are hundreds of social and political clubs organized before the Raines law was thought of that will probably succumb to the change. The University Club, the University Side Republican Club, the Riverside, Progress, Lincoln and dozens of other Republican clubs, which have been enabled to pay actual expenses by means of receipts from such sources, may have to disband. What the political effect of such a wholesale destruction of Republican or-

The conference made short work of the Greater New-York charter and the Greater New-York

Police bill. It was decided that they, as well as the city, should be made party to the measure. If they met factional opposition, the concession to the restaurant interest, fixing a license of \$250 a year, which should carry the right to sell liquor with meals up to 1 a. m. daily and during usual meal hours on Sundays, was abandoned.

City Republicans, after the conference, did not deny that they had suffered a signal defeat. Some of them did not hesitate to express their surprise that the "Patti had yielded to the amendments." They predicted that these changes could only mean another excise fight that would result in the defeat of any ticket the Republicans might put up in the Governor's election.

Mr. Lauterbach did not conceal his distress at the result of the conference, so far as the excise question was concerned.

BLACK HOLDING OFF.
THE GOVERNOR'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE POLICE BILL.

Albany, March 14 (Special).—Politicians here were amused to-day when they read Edward Lauterbach's expression of satisfaction over his talk with Governor Black on Friday in relation to the bill which he has framed legislating out of office the Police Boards of New-York, Brooklyn and Long Island City, and substituting for them one Board, with authority over the entire territory of Greater New-York. Mr. Lauterbach, these politicians said, did not accomplish the object of his mission, which was to obtain Mr. Black's promise that he would sign the bill.